

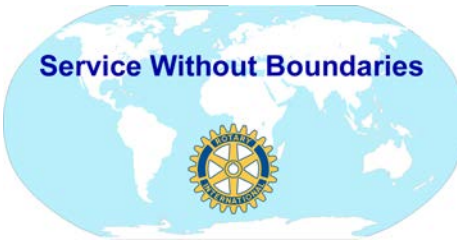
InFlight



Volume 39 Number 8

District 7470, NJ, USA

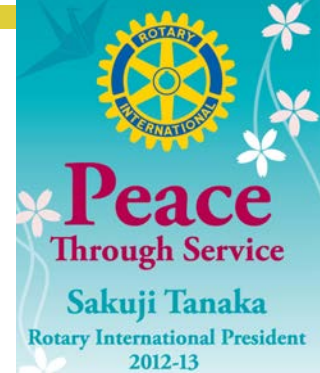
February 2013



District 7470 Governor
Avinash (Avi) Tilak



RI President
Sakuji Tanaka



Avi's Agenda

February is the World Understanding Month

It is to celebrate the "I" in Rotary "International". Although Rotary started in USA in 1905, soon (1912) we opened the first non-USA club in Winnipeg, Canada. During the same year Rotary Club of London was chartered as the first European club. In 1919, Manila and Shanghai formed the first Asian clubs. In 1922, the name was officially changed to Rotary International. Since then we have expanded everywhere.

Rotary promotes Peace and World Understanding through many activities. Matching grants promote collaboration between Rotarians in 2 or more countries, helping them to work on a cause together and to develop personal connections. See the Spotlight in this issue on our district's Matching Grants.

Peace and Ambassadorial scholarship programs send scholars to foreign lands for study. In that process these young men and women gain a better understanding of other cultures thus promoting the cause of world peace. We will highlight our Ambassadorial and Peace scholars in April issue of In-Flight.

All youth exchange programs, Rotary Short Term Exchange, Rotary Long Term Exchange, Rotary New Generation Exchange and our District 7470 Ross Redmond Japanese Exchange have the same underlying goal - world understanding. A large number of conflicts arise because of us-versus-them syndrome. Let young people from different religions, nations, cultures and languages, spend time with other, and they will see how similar all of us are in our aspirations and goals. Our district currently provides for both Short Term and Long Term Rotary exchange. We also have our district program of Japanese exchange.

Our Polio Eradication initiative has, for the first time in history, created a world wide infrastructure to provide health care and to track outbreaks. Apart from eliminating polio, this infrastructure is leading to cooperation among people from all nations.

Let us continue our efforts to promote World Understanding and achieve lasting Peace.

Avi

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Now is the time to focus on supporting our Rotary Foundation

As you read in The Spotlight, we are providing \$166,000 for humanitarian work in our district and another \$110,000 for similar work abroad. Where do you think the money for this work comes from? Short answer - from our Rotary Foundation. Where does the Foundation get it's money from? Of course, from Rotarians all over the world. If we want to continue our good work, we need to support our Foundation.

We support our local causes. My conservative guess is that we give over \$150,000 in scholarships to local youth and we spend another \$500,000 on local projects. But we also must support collaborative cross-border projects. We are Rotary "International". I am challenging our clubs and members to give at least \$150,000 to our Foundation's Annual Program, the same that we give to our local students. That is only an average of \$120 per member.

At the same time, do not forget Polio. As long as there is polio somewhere on this earth, children everywhere are at risk. I am confident that we can provide \$50,000 for the cause, that is only \$40 per member. Further, as the governor, I am committing \$5,000 from our district

funds for Polio Eradication. So now we just need \$36 per member :-))

During my District Conference we will recognize clubs that provide outstanding support to our Foundation. Details of Awards have been sent to all club presidents. You will receive your recognition from (and a photo-op with) Carl Wilhelm Stenhammer (RI President 2005-06 and Foundation Trustee Chair 2009-10).

The deadline for recognition is April 15, one month before conference. So don't wait till June. Give before the end of March. Don't miss out on this recognition by being a procrastinator.

February Rotary Trivia Contest

Win a \$100 certificate towards District Conference (the certificate is transferable)

Answer the following question:

When was the RI Constitution changed to eliminate the "male only" clause?

Answer is in this newsletter

Send your answer no later than Feb 20, 2013 to DG Avi at avtilak9@gmail.com

We will hold a drawing to select one winner among all the correct entries.

ROTARY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Saturday April 20, 2013
ALL NEW CURRICULUM

Rotarians in District 7470 have the opportunity to further develop their leadership skills as well as increase their Rotary knowledge by attending RLI on Saturday April 20, 2013 at Seton Hall Prep., West Orange,

This institute is so convenient and so important for the growth and development of you, your club and your district.

Pre-registration is a MUST. Please go today to: www.rlinea.com to register and pay the modest fee of \$75.00 for breakfast, lunch and all materials.

Late registrations will incur an additional fee. And so unnecessary...

Do it now.



GSE Team to India in 2012-13. From left to right: Avi Tilak, DG 2012-13; Rahsaan Byrd (sponsor South Orange) ; Ray Freaney, District GSE Chair; Pooja Khurana (sponsor West Orange); Kevin Hersh (being hit in the head with a soccer ball), GSE Team Leader; Jennifer Fucci (sponsor Denville Sunrise); and not pictured here, Jen Dawson (sponsor Phillipsburg).

GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE

Exchange program for young professionals started in 1950 when a group from Great Britain visited New Zealand. In 1965, the Rotary Foundation trustees formally adopted the program under the name of Group Study Exchange, with the first exchanges taking place in the same year. According to RI records, our district had the first GSE exchange in 1966-67 to Argentina.

Helga Johnson was very kind to provide a photo of one of our earliest teams (to Korea in 1975-76). By the way, the outbound team to Korea is still in touch with each other as you can see from a photo of “men” with a lot of white (or missing) hair.

Sadly, this is the last year of GSE as we know it. Starting 2013-14, we will have VTT (Vocational Training Teams) program, which is significantly different from GSE.



GSE Team to Korea in 1975-76. Names of team members, team leader and the DG are in the photo itself.



GSE Team from 1975-76 in 2013. PDG Sven, the team leader, has stayed in touch with the surviving team members. They get together once a year. See if you can figure out who is who.

JANUARY CONTEST WINNER

Question: What was the total giving to The Rotary Foundation in 2010-2011?

Answer: \$208.5 million

Winner: We had 27 correct entries. The winner (chosen randomly) is Victor Nexon from Denville Rotary. He will receive a \$100 check.

During Rotary Year 2012-13 one of my top priorities as District Governor was to do Humanitarian Grants.

I am proud to announce that with help from our International Sponsors we are doing 14 Matching Grants in our district for a total grant level of \$154,000.

At the same time, we have become International Sponsor of 8 Matching Grants abroad with our district's contribution being \$110,000 (\$55K DDF + \$55K match).

We are also funding 12 District Simplified Grants for a total grant amount of \$12,000.

In District Matching Grants in Essex, Morris, Sussex and Warren Counties in New Jersey, USA (total \$154,000)

District Wide Project: Promote Health, And Community Development by providing supplies to Lyons VA for reintegration of homeless veterans in the local communities.

Bernardsville: Promote Community Development by creating a Giving Garden at Somerset Hills YMCA to provide FOOD to local needy families.

Caldwell: Promote Peace and Community Development by providing equipment and supplies to local CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) members.

Denville Sunrise: Promote Community Development by providing a rescue boat to Denville Fire department.

Jefferson: Promote Peace by providing protective vests to local SPCA volunteers.

Lake Hopatcong: Promote Community Development by providing equipment and supplies to Family Promise of Morris County which helps local homeless families.

Maplewood & South Orange: Promote Education and Literacy by providing equipment for outdoor learning center at Seth Boyden Demonstration School

Morris Plains: Promote Community Development by creating a Garden at Morris County Interfaith Food Pantry to providing FOOD to local needy families.

Newark: Promote Education & Literacy by providing Newark Public Library with an outdoor reading area for use by patrons.

Phillipsburg: Promote Education & Literacy by providing computer equipment to Joseph H. Firth Youth Center for use by local-students.

Randolph: Promote Community Development by providing equipment and supplies for Randolph Food Pantry.

Vernon: Promote Health, Education & Literacy, And Community Development by providing nutritious food, books and clothing to needy students in elementary school.

West Orange: Promote Disease Prevention by replacing laundry equipment at Camp Merry heart.

Wharton / Mine Hill: Promote Education & Literacy by providing Smart Boards in local K-8 classrooms.

Matching Grants Abroad (our contribution \$110,000)

District 3050: Promote Sanitation, Health, And Education & Literacy by providing sanitation blocks and desks for 600 primary school students from the economically backward families of the slum areas in Deesa.

District 3050: Promote Water & Sanitation, And Education & Literacy by providing tube well with storage tank, desks, books and computer equipment to Rotary School in Ladana.

District 3132: Promote Disease Prevention & Treatment by providing for 1,000 corrective eye surgeries.

District 3140: Promote Economic & Community Development, and EDUCATION by providing for Vocational training of 84 students in electrical and electronic services.

District 3140: Promote Disease Prevention & Treatment by establishing a new orthopedic operation theater in a local hospital in Thane.

District 3140: Promote Economic & Community Development, by providing solar cooking and lighting systems to all 320 families in Shisne village.

District 3140: Promote Disease Prevention & Treatment by procuring and installing cancer (leukemia) diagnosis equipment for local hospital.

District 3230: Promote Clean Water & Sanitation, and Economic & Community Development, by providing low cost shelters, water wells and sanitation blocks to local villages devastated by natural disasters.

District Simplified Grants (\$1,000 each)

Denville Sunrise: Purchase 2 bicycle racks for downtown Denville.

Irvington: Purchase 2 i-pods for therapists working with cerebral palsy patients.

Jefferson: Purchase equipment for an outdoor classroom at a Child Care center.

Lake Hopatcong: Purchase baby supplies, food, gas cards, etc. for FP of Morris.

Madison: For Livesey Park Beautification project.

Mendham: Water tanks for Kopila School in Nepal.

Mendham: TB screening and purchase of refrigerator for Kopila School in Nepal.

Mendham: Purchase of 2 i-pads for Matheny School.

Morris Plains: For Roberts Garden project.

Parsippany / Troy Hills: Purchase of diapers for needy families in Morris County.

Wallkill Valley: Backpacks filled with supplies for homeless veterans.

www.rotarydistrict7470.org
 Rotary International President
 Sakuji Tanaks

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Attendance Report

	Member Count	YTD Gain/Loss	December Attendance.
Denville Sunrise	13	0	100.00%
Maplewood	23	0	96.00%
Denville	48	0	94.70%
Pequannock Valley	52	0	93.80%
Lake Hopatcong	22	0	93.00%
Morris Plains	56	0	93.00%
Wharton	10	0	93.00%
Belvidere	9	0	92.00%
Blairstown	24	0	91.00%
Chatham Millburn	7	0	90.40%
Livingston Sunrise	25	0	89.00%
Livingston	15	0	88.80%
Nutley	29	0	88.50%
Dover	16	0	87.50%
Whippany	27	0	87.00%
South Orange	9	0	86.11%
Phillipsburg	28	-1	86.00%
Caldwells	32	0	85.00%
Hampton Township	20	0	85.00%
Jefferson Township	12	0	85.00%
Butler/Triboro	14	0	82.14%
Glen Ridge	22	0	81.82%
Mount Olive Township	9	0	81.48%
Ironbound (Newark)	9	0	80.00%
Roseland Rotary	5	0	80.00%
West Orange	42	0	78.00%
Rockaway Rotary Club	24	1	76.40%
Netcong-Stanhope	14	0	76.00%
Randolph	29	0	76.00%
Bloomfield	13	0	75.00%
Morristown	57	-1	75.00%
Walkkill Valley	24	0	74.90%
Irvington	15	0	73.33%
Vernon Township	16	0	72.00%
Mendham Rotary	22	0	69.00%
Washington	17	0	68.63%
Cedar Grove	16	0	65.21%
East Orange	9	-1	62.00%
Branchville	31	1	61.95%
Newton	101	2	61.60%
Par-Troy Rotary	20	0	61.40%
Madison Rotary	84	0	60.00%
Newark	39	0	58.82%
Chester-Long Valley	12	0	53.00%
Boonton	12	0	51.00%
Bernardsville	30	-4	43.33%
Belleville - NR	7	0	0.00%
East Hanover - NR	8	0	0.00%
Fairfield NJ - NR	7	0	0.00%
Florham Park - NR	13	0	0.00%
Hackettstown - NR	25	0	0.00%
Montclair - NR	23	0	0.00%
Montville Township - NR	0	0	0.00%
Roxbury - NR	20	0	0.00%
Total	1265	-3	65.56%

Gift of Life Gala

We're celebrating twenty-eight years
 of saving little hearts

MARCH 8, 2013

7:00 PM

The Villa, Rt. 46 East
 Mountain Lake, NJ

Great Food, Open Bar, Live Music
 Our Popular Silent Action

Black Tie Optional \$85.00 per person



Mary Ann's Marquee

seeko@embarqmail.com

Here we are in the middle of winter. Waiting for more snow - but hark! Do I hear the whizzing sound of Cupid's arrow? Why yes! Red hearts appear on windows, in store fronts, on cards, etc., etc. Did Cupid's arrow pierce your heart this year, or in years past? Be endearing to your sweetheart if you have one. Love makes the world go round. Now let's see how your Rotary wheel is turning.

Bernardsville - Perseverance is the watchword, PDG Brad. You and the Ohio Rotary Club will succeed with the financing of the water project and the safe water education in Haiti. It takes a great deal of coordination.

Blairstown - My, My - your two members have such musical children. Dave's son has been awarded a \$10,000 grant to finish his first musical CD and Gene's son's opera is being submitted for a Pulitzer. You must be very proud.

Branchville - Well, the 'partying' club had another fun party - a Christmas Party. You sure know how to work and play and make work seem like play.

Caldwell - Didn't Santa look so cute perched atop the old fire truck that you helped refurbish a while ago. Clang, clang, clang, and a "Ho, Ho, Ho" through the streets of Caldwell.

Denville - So glad your annual Santaland was successful.

Denville Sunrise - Will you be participating in Denville's Centennial

Celebrations this year? I can't wait to find out what you will do. You are so creative - what will it be?

Hackettstown - I see you are already getting ready for the St. Patty's Parade and your April shredding project.

Glen Ridge - Did Bob from the Newton Rotary Club fill you in about the 'History of Women in Rotary'. Interesting evolution, wasn't it?

Livingston - Congratulations! Because of your successful awards dinner you were able to make donations to the Essex CASA program, St. Barnabas Foundation, and the Yogi Berra Museum and Learning Center. Madison - Excellent article in your newsletter on how to sponsor a new member - very concise and precise. We know how to do it - we can do it - let's do it!

Mendham - The Humanitarian Award that you presented to the Sisters of Christian Charity was well deserved. The Sisters opened their hearts and the Mallinkrodt Convent to residents in the aftermath Hurricane Sandy. Acts of charity and kindness should be recognized.

Montclair - The fifth Annual Montclair Restaurant Week and second annual Taste of Montclair is a celebration of Montclair's culinary excellence and diversity. Last year, this event raised more than \$26,000 primarily for local charities.

Morris Plains - Gadzooks! Methinks I spied DGN Larry performing in your annual "12 days Musical Fanfare". Will he perform when he riseth to the task of D.G.?

Morristown - Your 'Business Networking' get togethers sound like a wonderful idea. You get to meet people, share business cards, and share business ideas at different locations and even get a bagel.

Mount Olive - How was your Poinsettia sale? They are such beautiful holiday plants. Will you have another Spring Fling this year? Newton - "Oh, say can you see "... the two new flagpoles which will be erected on Spring Street in Newton as a gift from Newton Rotary. After 2 1/2 years, the project is almost complete. Thanks to Jan Pasculli. Your Hurricane Relief donation of \$500 will be added to many other generous donations from Rotarians. Hey Newton Rotary - you're getting old! You will be 90 years old next year. You look good for your age.

Nutley - How wonderful that your Interact Club collected 16 large bags of coats gloves, scarves, boots. and 1 sleeping bag. Kiss, kiss - hug, hug - get ready for your Valentine Party.

Parsippany - Very nice \$5000 donation you gave to Houses to Homes. This organization builds permanent cinder block homes in Guatemala. You also contributed to the costs for a cistern to provide water to the residents of the area.

Pequannock Valley - After that delicious meal at your fireside club planning meeting, you probably all agreed on everything and left the meeting full - of food and ideas. And, speaking about food, do the winners of your 'Holiday Cooking Contest' have to cook for your Valentine's Dinner?

Rockaway - How did you do with your food drive for "Help Fight Hunger" event for the Rockaway Food Closet? You took cash and/or food. Now you must get ready for your Easter Bunny breakfast.

South Orange - We all mourn for your member, our PDG Janice Teetsell. She will be missed by all.

Wallkill Valley - Are you still wearing

Continued on Page 7

Marquee

Continued from Page 6

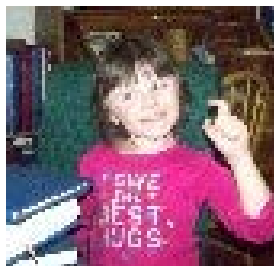
your galoshes from all that snow?
Put on your skis! (Paul does.)

West Orange – Another year - get ready for your Spring Annual Taste of the World? Yum!

Whippany – That program about teaching students all the facets of recycling sounded very interesting. Recycling in New Jersey is very important. Waste not – want not! That old chestnut is more important than ever.

“While others embark on a new year, Rotary is in the second half of its year. Your enthusiasm should be as great in this second half as it was in the first half. Some new projects to start and some old ones to finish. March on! Onward and upward - never straying from our goals.” See you at the conference!

WE ARE THIS CLOSE



Walk With Us

On April 28, 2013

To Help

ENDPOLIONOW

www.walkfest7470.org

Pledge Sheets

Available

Start Collecting

Your Pledges Now

ACTIVATE DATA INTEGRATION

It is time for all Clubs to activate member data integration. Rotary International and ClubRunner have established a partnership to integrate membership data entered in district/club membership database with Rotary International.

This means that once the feature is turned on and the setup is complete, all member data updates (which your club chooses to share) will be automatically updated on Member Access at RI's Headquarter databases within minutes, without the need to send any email notifications or enter the data via rotary.org.

The old method was to enter information twice. Once at the district/club level and once at RI through member access. Once Integration is activated, the information only needs to be entered once.

In order to begin using Data Integration, there are two steps that need to be completed by your club.

1. Opt in at Rotary International's Member Portal at www.rotary.org. Login as either Club President or Secretary and look for the Partner Organization section. Select ClubRunner as your authorized partner then click on the I Agree button to indicate acceptance of the terms and conditions. Here is a direct link to the Partner Organization

www.rotary.org/en/secureselfservice/Pages/AddVendorOrganization.aspx

2. Opt in within your ClubRunner Site. Login to your ClubRunner site and click on "Switch On RI Integration" link on the Admin page. If you are logging into your District site, you will find this link under the "For Clubs" section. Select the checkbox to switch on integration and agree to the ClubRunner terms and conditions. Clubs choose which fields to share with Rotary. Note that the name and at least one address is the minimum that has to be shared. Note: During the setup, there is a 24 hour delay from the time a club opts in to the time the authorization takes effect. Authorizations are processed by a database procedure that is scheduled to run once a day. Once the setup is complete, the member profile updates will take place within minutes moving forward.

If you experience any difficulty you may contact ClubRunner support at 877-469-2582 or by contact DGE Barry Kroll, district database manager at barrykroll@aol.com or 973-476-2772.

So far the following clubs have completed data integration: Belvidere, Bernardsville, Bloomfield, Branchville, Chester, Denville Sunrise, East Orange, Glen Ridge, Hackettstown, Madison, Mendham, Montclair, Morris Plains, Morristown, Mount Olive, Newark, Newton, Parsippany, Phillipsburg, Rockaway, Roseland, South Orange, Vernon, Washington, Whippany

ON MEMBERSHIP . . .

Members are the heart of every organization. For our good work to expand, we must grow our membership. In past we got around 15% new members each year, and we lost 16% existing members each year. The key to growth is retention. District-wide, 50% of incoming members leave us in the first 3 years.

If you lost your customer base at that rate, you will be bankrupt long before 3 years are over. Businesses know that acquiring a new customer costs 5 to 8 times more than retaining a current customer. So what are we doing wrong?

Simple answer . . . We have not been able to convince the members that they are getting back more from Rotary than what they are putting in.

Historically Rotary has been about fellowship, about camaraderie, about friendships. And we must not abandon these values. But the younger generation is more loyal towards causes, and not towards institutions. They care less about saying that "I am a Rotarian" or "I have a perfect attendance for zillion years". They would rather say . . . "I provided 1,000 meals to my community after Sandy" or "I provided clean water to 200 villagers".

We must adapt to the new reality of the New Generation.

Tell potential members about the humanitarian projects your club has done, not about attendance requirement. I welcome a Rotarian who helps a club raise \$10,000 for Polio Eradication and then participates in an NID; even if he cannot attend many meetings.

- 1) Once you get the member in, assign a buddy.
- 2) For the first 2 months, make sure she/he is seated with different people every meeting.
- 3) Appoint the member on 10 committees. She/he can drop from committees that do not appeal much personally. But if he is not put on the committees, he will never know what is going on in the club. (Of course, make sure to not appoint him on committees that never meet. Every club has a few of them.)
- 4) Many clubs have a club officer collect money at the door. Make this the duty of the new members; and rotate the people every 2 months. Denville Rotary

gave me this job, and 2 months later I knew every member of the club personally.

The operative word in . . . **ENGAGE.**

Engage the new member. Give him opportunities to contribute to the community, local, national and international. Give her real responsibility to produce results. Recognize her contributions.

Call me (Avi), upcoming governors (Barry, Larry, Frank and Margit) or anyone on Membership Development committee. We will be happy to visit your club to talk about membership growth.

BowlingNews

Bob Cariello 267, 246, 216
John Sanders 224, 215, 200
John Schlitt 221, 203
Gret Dittrich 238, 235
Nicki Feid 230, 207
Bob Feid 269, 268, 259
Dave Martin 256, 226, 223
Steve Bartsch 212, 205
Dave Richards 213
Bill Roberts 217, 206, 202
Bruce McCarter 214, 202
Michael L Rahill 214
Mike Delgado 224
George Burd 211

February Rotary Trivia Contest

Answer: 1989 Council on Legislation.

In 1978, when the RC of Duarte, CA inducted 3 women members, RI withdrew its charter. The club sued RI for violation of laws against discrimination of any form in business establishments or public accommodations, and won in CA Appeals court and in CA Supreme court. In 1987, US Supreme court upheld CA court indicating that Rotary clubs do have a business purpose and are in some ways public-organizations. RI changed its by-laws in 1989

Gift of Life Annual Meeting A Memorable Evening

One Hundred and thirteen Rotarians can't be wrong – the Gift of Life Annual Meeting was the place to be recently at Ravello Ristorante in East Hanover.

The evening began with a Skype conversation all the way from El Salvador with a Gift of Life child and her mom telling us about their experiences with her surgery and resulting recovery. They were joined by another child with his dad who, through a translator, recounted their story as well.

Robbie Donno, who along with the late Tony Zino, founded Gift of Life in Manhasset, NY back in 1973, was the keynote speaker, and gave an emotional account of the earliest days of the program and the children that moved them to action.

The evening concluded with several presentations of donations from Rotary Clubs across our district, contributing over \$70,000 to help save the children of the world; one little heart at a time.



Bill Muller, member of Denville Rotary and PDG 1980-81, and his wife were dedicated supporters of Gift of Life. They left a substantial legacy in their will for GOL. Bill's daughters, Wendy Lightner and Mel Plocharski, presented the check to Laurie Braun and Rick Porter of GOL. Denville Rotary members Avi Tilak, DG 2012-13 and Joe Paci, Denville President 2012-13 joined in.



Robbie Donno, the Rotarian who started it all.



One of our success stories from El Salvador (right) and her mother (left).

International Community Service Award to Rotarian Tom Conk



The Montclair Rotary Club President Dr. Margaret Banitch recently presented the International Community Service Award to Rotarian Tom Conk for his work to make life better and more meaningful for the Township's people. He exemplifies the Rotary "Service Above Self" motto through his work as board member, treasurer or volunteer with not-for-profit organizations that assist the less fortunate here and in other lands. Tom has contributed his time and professional skills to the Rotary Foundation, Human Needs Food Pantry, Montclair Ambulance Unit, HOME Corp, Partners for Women & Justice, and Marylawn of the Oranges Academy. In addition, he is a multi-gallon blood donor with the American Red Cross, and he initiated with Rotary International a clean drinking water project for schools in Kosovo. He has been the president of the local Rotary Club two times, a Paul Harris Fellow, and a sustaining member of the Rotary International Foundation. Tom is also a member of N.J. Society of Certified Public Accountants. Shown in the photo above are (l to r) Dr. Banitch, Tom Conk, who is an avid, long-distance bike rider, and Rotarian Juliana Belcsak, who organized tribute luncheon, held at Upper Montclair Country Club.



YOUR FOUNDATION IN ACTION

Group Study team member, Pooja Khurana, sponsored by the West Orange Rotary Club captured giving two precious, life saving drops to a baby girl in Rae Bareilly, India. "That moment was truly one of the highlights of my GSE experience knowing I have altered the course of this baby's life – incredible".

Rotary Offers Three-Week Youth Exchange Trip To Japan

Rotary clubs in our area are joining together in a search for young adults to represent the region in a cultural exchange with Japan. The Ross Redmond Short Term Youth Exchange Program, now in its thirty-fourth year, offers students ages 16 to 20 the opportunity to experience life in another country.

This three week trip tentatively departing on June 27, 2013 and returning on July 18, 2013, is designed for students who want to learn about Japanese culture, interact with Japanese students and form friendships that will last a lifetime. Our group of 28 students and 2 leaders will be met in Osaka by Japanese Rotarians who will be our hosts during our stay.

The group will visit major cities in southern Japan including Osaka, Kyoto and Nara. There will also be a separate trip to Hiroshima to visit Peace Memorial Park and Museum. The group will primarily stay on the island of Shikoku, the smallest of the four main islands in Japan. Each young person will meet and live with four different host families in each of the island's four prefectures. This trip provides an extraordinary insider's view of Japan since we are hosted by local Japanese people and stay in Japanese homes. This type of trip cannot be duplicated as a tourist.

The cost of the trip is \$2,950 all inclusive, including airfare. Students are selected through an interview process that occurs during February and March. Applications are now being accepted. Interviews are scheduled based upon the order the applications are received. There is a \$500 deposit required at the time of interview/acceptance into the program and final payment must be made by April 1, 2013, the date for purchase of the group airline tickets.

Interested parties should contact their local Rotary Club, or Ross Redmond Short Term Youth Exchange Program chairman, Jim Allison at JRA188@aol.com or 201-213-6382.

For more information about Rotary in your community, visit <http://rotarydistrict7470.org> For detailed information on the Ross Redmond Short Term Youth Exchange Program, including the application form, visit <http://rrstye.rotarydistrict7470.org>

Live It Up In Lancaster at the Conference



Hopefully by now, all District 7470 Rotarians have received their letter of invitation to the district conference with "14 Reasons Why You Should Attend." Also enclosed in the mailing was a city guide to Lancaster, a hotel information card and, most importantly, a conference reservation form. If, by some chance, you did not receive the mailing, you can log on to the district web site (Rotary District 7470) to view all but the city guide.

Fee for the conference is \$35.00 per adult until March 15th. After the 15th, the fee goes to \$45.00 per adult. Make your conference reservations now and save \$10.00 per person until March 15th - act now and SAVE. Remember to make your hotel reservations directly to the Double Tree by Hilton

(<http://willowvalley.com/lancaster-pa-doubletree/>) room rates are guaranteed until April 16th. Make certain to use code RD-7 for negotiated room rates - rates are the same two days prior and two days post the conference dates.

Lancaster, PA - a city authentic! Lancaster is a unique destination that has beckoned travelers for centuries. When people think about Lancaster County and the Pennsylvania Dutch Country, they usually think about the Amish. However, there is a broad variety of attractions, events, and fun things to do and see throughout Lancaster County. I invite you to see for yourself - 365 Things To Do in Lancaster.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me (Tony Toriello). Write an email ttoriello@yahoo.com or call (973) 625-1362. In the Spirit of Rotary, I am asking all fellow Rotarians to mark the calendar (May 16-19) and to make every effort to attend this year's district conference. Bring a family member, a friend, a fellow Rotarian - just come. It is a time to have Fun, Fun and More Fun.

Finally, as with all conferences, there will be inspiring morning plenary sessions, early-bird gift drawings, club and individual awards, conference baskets/foundation giving drawings, Avenue of Service display awards, etc. As we begin to finalize the conference program/activities, we welcome your suggestions to help make DG Avi's conference one of the best ever!

2013 ROTARY ROSE PARADE FLOAT



The float and members of the Rotary Rose Parade Float committee. Photo by Wade Nomura

RI President Tanaka and Rotary Vice President Ken Schuppert seated on float.

What is the Council on Legislation?

To read this year's COL proposals, go to District website and click on the link in top-left box "[Proposed Legislation COL](#)"

Every 3 years Rotary International holds a meeting of its legislative body. The Council has the authority to amend the constitutional documents of RI as well as adopt resolutions. Every district in the Rotary world selects a representative to attend the week long meeting and vote on legislation. The next council will be in Chicago on April 21-26, 2013.

The District Nominating Committee which met in the spring of 2011 chose PDG Ted Krisanda to be the delegate for the 2nd time.

Ted has copies of the items of legislation to be discussed in April. It is his responsibility to visit as many clubs as possible between now and April 1st to present a program on the Council and ask clubs how they would like him to vote on key legislation that will affect their club and its operation.

Now is the time to contact him for your program on this Legislation. Email him at pdg7470@optonline.net to set up your program.